

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128295
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 /074 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN:MN
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
AF/W:TWMSMITH

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O P 031750Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128295

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CF, US, NI

SUBJECT: US-CONGOLESE TALKS ON RESUMING RELATIONS

1. IN VIEW OF NIGERIAN IRRITATION AT WHAT IS SEEN AS
CONGOLESE EFFORT TO USURP THEIR MEDIATION ROLE, WE BELIEVE
IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO DISABUSE NIGERIANS OF ANY SUSPICIONS
THEY MIGHT HAVE REGARDING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE'S
MEETING WITH CONGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER OBENGA IN BONN
JUNE 6. YOU SHOULD ACCORDINGLY SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY
TO ASSURE NIGERIANS THAT ONLY PURPOSE OF TALKS WHICH
SCHEDULED BEFORE OUR KNOWLEDGE OF CONGOLESE MEDIATION ROLE,
WILL BE TO END SUSPENSION OF DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS,
REMINDING THEM THAT WE ARE NOW FOLLOWING POLICY OF
RAPPROCHEMENT WITH MORE RADICAL STATES THAT THEY HAVE
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LONG ADVISED.

2. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ISSUE OF ANGOLA-ZAIRE RELATIONS
AND MEDIATION EFFORT WILL COME UP DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH
CONGOLESE. YOU SHOULD ASSURE NIGERIANS THAT WE WILL
INFORM THEM OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WE MIGHT HAVE ON THIS
SUBJECT.

3. WE ARE RESPONDING SEPARATELY TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY
GARBA REGARDING POSSIBLE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT BEHIND NETO'S

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EFFORT TO USE CONGO RATHER THAN NIGERIA AS MEDIATOR
WITH ZAIRE. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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